

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method Use of using gelatinized starch for the purpose of increasing the lasting time of an animal chew wherein comprising:
using at the level of starch gelatinization is greater than 90% and
having a level of the starch is present in the animal chew at a level of at least 35%.
2. (Currently amended) The method Use according to claim 1, wherein in which the level of gelatinization is greater than 95%.
3. (Currently amended) The method Use according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein in which the chew further comprises fiber.
4. (Currently amended) The method Use according to claim 3, wherein in which the fiber is insoluble fiber.
5. (Currently amended) The method Use according to claim 4, wherein in which the fiber is cellulose.
6. (Currently amended) The method Use according to any of claims 3, to 5, in which wherein the proportion of fiber is in the range 2 to 15%.
7. (Currently amended) The method Use according to any of the preceding claims 1, wherein in which the animal chew does not contain any plasticizer.
8. (Currently amended) An animal chew comprising:
gelatinized starch having a gelatinization level

of greater than 90% and in which the proportion of starch in the chew is greater than or equal to 35%.

9. (Currently amended) A chew according to claim 8,
further comprising fiber.
10. (Currently amended) A chew according to claim 9,
wherein in which the proportion of fiber is in the range
of 2 to 15%.
11. (Currently amended) A chew according to claim 9-~~or~~
~~+10,~~ wherein said fiber is insoluble.
12. (Currently amended) A chew according to ~~any of~~
claims 8-~~to 11~~, wherein the chew ~~which~~ contains no
plasticizer.